House Study Bill 42 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE

ON JUDICIARY BILL BY

CHAIRPERSON BALTIMORE)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the rights to involvement of certain
- 2 individuals in child in need of assistance and termination
- 3 of parental rights proceedings under the juvenile justice
- 4 code.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 232.87, Code 2015, is amended by adding
- 2 the following new subsection:
- 3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. For the purposes of the judicial
- 4 proceedings under this division III, part 4, including the
- 5 filing of the petition and the contents of the petition under
- 6 this section, if the biological father of a child has not been
- 7 otherwise legally determined, an individual named as a parent
- 8 on the child's certificate of birth pursuant to section 144.13,
- 9 subsection 2, shall be deemed a parent of the child.
- 10 Sec. 2. Section 232.111, subsection 4, paragraph b,
- 11 subparagraph (1), Code 2015, is amended to read as follows:
- 12 (1) Living parents of the child. If the biological father
- 13 of a child has not been otherwise legally determined, the
- 14 living parent of the child shall include an individual named
- 15 as a parent on the child's certificate of birth pursuant to
- 16 section 144.13, subsection 2.
- 17 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 20 This bill provides that for the purposes of child in need of
- 21 assistance judicial proceedings, including the filing of the
- 22 petition and the contents of the petition alleging a child to
- 23 be a child in need of assistance, if the biological father of a
- 24 child has not been otherwise legally determined, an individual
- 25 named as a parent on the child's certificate of birth based on
- 26 the fact that the mother was married to that individual at the
- 27 time of conception, birth, or at any time during the period
- 28 between conception and birth of the child, that individual is
- 29 deemed to be a parent of the child.
- 30 The bill also provides that for the purposes of a termination
- 31 of parental rights proceeding under Code chapter 232 (juvenile
- 32 justice), if the biological father of a child has not been
- 33 otherwise legally determined, an individual named as a parent
- 34 on the child's certificate of birth based on the fact that
- 35 the mother was married to that individual at the time of

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- 1 conception, birth, or at any time during the period between
- 2 conception and birth of the child, that individual is to be
- 3 included as a living parent of the child for the purposes of
- 4 the content of the petition and is thereby a necessary party to
- 5 the proceedings and entitled to notice and an opportunity to be
- 6 heard.